

oceans. Each of us needs to take responsibility for protecting these essential resources. We can do so through the simple step of taking reusable bags with us when we shop. The Trash Free Watersheds Act creates a tax that I hope no American will choose to pay.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LEONARD L. BOSWELL

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 23, 2009

Mr. BOSWELL. Madam Speaker, I regret my absence from the House on April 21st and April 22nd, but I was in my district welcoming President Obama to Newton, Iowa, former home of Maytag, and now home to a growing wind power industry, where we celebrated Earth Day and focused on alternative energy development and the green collar jobs this will create. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye" on rollcall votes 193, 194, 195, 196, 197, and 199, and I would have voted "no" on rollcall vote 198.

HONORING THE VILLAGE OF ITASCA

HON. PETER J. ROSKAM

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 23, 2009

Mr. ROSKAM. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Village of Itasca in my Congressional District. Through a dedicated community-wide effort, Itasca has earned the designation of an International Safe Community from the World Health Organization.

This impressive effort places Itasca at the forefront of public health and safety efforts as the only Illinois community, and one of only five communities across the nation to receive this prestigious designation.

By developing community programs including self defense classes, home safety inspections, an unused prescription drug disposal program, investing in defibrillator equipment and training, and establishing a Community Emergency Response Team; the Village of Itasca has worked to engage its citizens, first responders, and local leaders in making Itasca a healthier, safer place to live and work.

Madam Speaker and Distinguished Colleagues, please join me in recognizing the Village of Itasca for achieving this challenging goal and setting an outstanding example for all Illinois communities to work together to tackle public health and safety challenges.

A TRIBUTE TO THE LIFE OF JAMES GRIFFIN BOSWELL II

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 23, 2009

Mr. COSTA. Madam Speaker, I rise today along with my colleagues from the House, Mr. NUNES and Mr. RADANOVICH, and from the Senate, Mrs. FEINSTEIN to pay a special tribute to the life of an agricultural icon of California,

Mr. James Griffin Boswell II of Indian Wells, California. James passed away on April 3, 2009 at the age of 86. He is survived by his wife Barbara Wallace Boswell, three children and several grandchildren.

Mr. James Griffin Boswell was born on March 10, 1923 in Greensboro, Georgia to William Whittier Boswell, Sr. and Kate Hall Boswell. James graduated in 1941 from the Thacher School an exclusive private boarding school in Ojai, California. In 1946 he received his B.S. in Economics from Stanford University. Prior to graduating from Stanford, "JG" as he was most commonly known, served in the United States Army during World War II where he was stationed in the South Pacific.

At the age of twenty-nine, James inherited one-third of the JG Boswell Company after the death of his uncle, JG Boswell I. At that time the company held 150,000 acres in California. During the next half century, James spent a good portion of his time transforming the family farm located near Corcoran, California in the San Joaquin Valley.

The diversification of the JG Boswell Company created many industry leading developments. Mr. Boswell's labs developed new, highly productive seed varieties as well as technological improvements that increased their capacity. He was an innovative water user, one of the first to employ lasers when leveling fields allowing water to flow evenly and efficiently. His careful water management also included hiring agronomists to determine when and how to irrigate. This allowed the Boswell farms to produce more cotton with less water than their competitors. James remained a very private man, in spite of periods of growth and success for his enterprises, which included such things as diversification into real estate development and farming ventures in Australia. His family business maintained that private reputation throughout his life.

James Griffin Boswell served as Chairman, President and CEO of the JG Boswell Co. from 1952 and continued until his retirement in 1984. After his retirement James continued to serve on the Boswell Company Board of Directors until his passing. In addition, Mr. Boswell served on the Boards of Safeway, General Electric, Security Pacific Bank, Bank of America, and Up with People. James was a trustee of the California Nature Conservancy, Cal Tech, Thacher School, the James G. Boswell Foundation in California and the Boswell Family Foundation in Idaho. Many were the recipients of Mr. Boswell's generosity.

It goes without saying that Mr. James Griffin Boswell's dedicated involvement to the cotton industry earned him a reputation of respect and enormous appreciation from Central Valley cotton farmers, and the agriculture industry in general. James was known as the Cotton King. My colleagues and I are honored and humbled to join his family today in celebrating the life of this amazing man. His presence will be dearly missed in our community in the years to come.

IN HONOR OF U.S. CAPITOL POLICE LIEUTENANT DOMINICK COSTA ON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT

HON. XAVIER BECERRA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 23, 2009

Mr. BECERRA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Lieutenant Dominick Costa for his more than 31 years of public service to the U.S. Capitol Police Department and our congressional community.

Since his appointment to the U.S. Capitol Police on October 3, 1977, Lieutenant Costa has held several important positions within the Department. He has served in the House and Senate Divisions, Capitol Division, and the First Responder Unit. As an instructor and as a supervisor in the Training Division, he helped develop and enhance the skills of fellow officers. Over the years, Lieutenant Costa also worked as a Crime Scene Research Officer, a member of the U.S. Capitol Police Department's Ceremonial Unit and as an Administrative Sergeant in charge of the Department's Victim Witness Program. After being promoted to Lieutenant in November 2004, Lt. Costa served as the Watch Commander, providing area command for all Department operations and serving as the U.S. Capitol Police Chief's representative in his absence.

On January 3, 2009, Lieutenant Costa retired after over three decades of exemplary service as a member of the U.S. Capitol Police Department. He is currently residing in La Plata, Maryland with his wife Barbara of 28 years and daughter Danielle. His unwavering commitment to the public serves as an inspiration to all Americans.

Madam Speaker, I rise to once again praise Lieutenant Dominick Costa for his outstanding public service to the Congress and to his country. I ask my colleagues to join me in wishing Lieutenant Costa well in his retirement and thank him for all his years of service.

HONORING ST. PAUL INDUSTRIAL TRAINING SCHOOL AND MR. JAMES WILLIAM SMOTHERS AND MRS. ALICE OLENZA SMOTHERS

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 23, 2009

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize St. Paul Industrial Training School and the dedication of a Texas State Historical Marker in commemoration of this institute.

St. Paul Industrial Training school was founded in Henderson County, Texas by James William Smothers and Alice Olenza Smothers in the 1920's. This couple placed a particular emphasis on educating orphaned and abandoned children, and throughout the course of six decades, thousands of African American students received instruction at their institute. The Smothers' dedication to service was unwavering, and even when a tornado leveled the campus in 1942, the couple resolved anew to continue their work. Today, St. Paul Industrial Training School, Inc. continues

the legacy of this couple and their school by offering financial assistance to needy, college bound students.

Institutions of this nature played an important role in our nation's history, and the work of educators like the Smotherses was integral in advancing the civil rights movement. They worked diligently to make sure that every child had the opportunity to learn and succeed, and they felt that it was vital to ensure these youths had the ability to make a lasting contribution to society.

The placement of this historical marker will take place on May 2, 2009, and I ask my fellow colleagues to join me in recognizing St. Paul Industrial Training School and its founders, Mr. J. W. Smothers and Mrs. Alice O. Smothers.

HONORING THE ROSELLE LIONS CLUB

HON. PETER J. ROSKAM

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 23, 2009

Mr. ROSKAM. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 75th anniversary of the Roselle Lions Club in my Congressional District. On April 26, 2009, the Roselle Lions will mark more than 75 years of dedicated community service.

Through the years, the Lions Club has been instrumental in aiding those with hearing and vision impairments by providing members of the local community in need with hearing aids, glasses, and support groups.

With local events like The Lions Carnival, National Night Out, and the Children's Christmas Party, the Lions Club has raised funds for these worthy causes and provided a fun and safe environment for families to spend time together. The extent of the Roselle Lions' dedication and generosity can be seen in the countless library, school, and civic projects they have supported financially, and with their time and energy.

Madam Speaker and Distinguished Colleagues, the Roselle Lions Club has worked tirelessly to make their local community a better place to live, work and raise a family. They have brought compassion to those in need and been a tremendous asset to the citizens of Roselle.

Please join me in recognizing the impressive work of the Roselle Lions Club, and wishing them every success in their next 75 years of fellowship and service.

IN HONOR OF STEPHEN VANCE

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 23, 2009

Mr. FARR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of an invaluable member of the Santa Cruz community, and his humanitarian efforts all over the world. After decades of service and devotion to aiding developing countries, Stephen Vance lost his life serving

the people and countries for whom he always cared.

After graduating from the University of California at Santa Cruz, Stephen became immersed in work for the United States Agency for International Development (USAID). In his role at USAID, Stephen spent more than twenty years working the issues of developing countries. He held numerous Country Director and Chief of Party assignments with USAID contractors and directed the USAID Mission experience. He served as the Senior Economic Development Advisor for USAID in Timor-Leste, where he managed USAID's economic growth team. Earlier, he served two years as the Executive Director of the Soros Foundation in Mongolia. While there, he spearheaded the foundation's transformation from a grant-making organization with more than 20 programs and 500 projects to an independent, non-partisan center for policy research and analysis and a platform for citizen participation and advocacy. Stephen designed and developed new projects in enterprise development, trade diversification, foreign investment promotion, rural and agricultural finance and agricultural development.

Stephen's years of work reflected his desire to improve living situations and stimulate economic growth and self-sufficiency in developing countries. Though he sought to create a more perfect, peaceful world, Stephen's life was lost at the hands of gunmen in Pakistan. At the time of his assassination, he was working for Cooperative Housing Federation International. There he directed "Livelihoods Project" in the FATA region, a program intended to infuse \$750 million in economic development into the area.

Stephen was loved by many; his upbeat and optimistic attitude, as well as his zealous and vivacious approach to dealing with situations made him always a pleasure to be around. His humanitarian efforts gained him the respect and friendship of people all over the world; his zest for life and creative nature made him a person who will not soon be forgotten.

The City of Santa Cruz and the rest of the world will miss Stephen's vision and leadership, but there is no doubt that he has left us a better place than when he first arrived.

Madam Speaker, on behalf of the United States of Congress, I would like to honor the many accomplishments of Stephen Vance and express sincere gratitude for his contributions locally and internationally.

PREVENTION, AWARENESS, AND RESEARCH AUTOIMMUNE DISEASE (PARAID) ACT

HON. PATRICK J. KENNEDY

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 23, 2009

Mr. KENNEDY. Madam Speaker, today, I am introducing along with my colleague Representative CLIFF STEARNS, the Prevention, Awareness, and Research Autoimmune Disease (PARAID) Act.

I am introducing this legislation to address the critical issue of autoimmune diseases in our population. The National Institutes of

Health (NIH) estimates that between 14 and 23.5 million Americans have an autoimmune disease and the prevalence is rising. Seventy-five percent of those afflicted are women with most cases occurring during the childbearing years. The chronic nature of these diseases accounts for its incredible cost to the individual and staggering drain on our nation's healthcare resources. The National Institutes of Health estimates that annual direct health care costs for autoimmune disease are in the range of \$100 billion.

Autoimmune diseases encompass more than 100 interrelated diseases, such as lupus, multiple sclerosis, rheumatoid arthritis, Sjogren's syndrome, polymyositis, pemphigus, myasthenia gravis, Wegener's granulomatosis, psoriasis, celiac disease, autoimmune platelet disorders, scleroderma, alopecia areata, vitiligo, autoimmune thyroid disease, and sarcoidosis. Basic research into the mechanism that drives the autoimmune response is the fundamental knowledge needed to cure many of these diseases.

This legislation will increase awareness of autoimmune diseases, increase research on environmental triggers of autoimmune diseases, enhance education on the relationship between autoimmune and mental illness, and provide loan repayment for physician research on autoimmune disease. This support will help alleviate the suffering of millions of Americans, who suffer every day with the symptoms of these diseases, many times unable to fully participate in their work and family life as a result.

For these reasons, I urge you to give full consideration of this bill as quickly as possible.

ARMENIAN GENOCIDE

HON. TIMOTHY J. WALZ

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 23, 2009

Mr. WALZ. I rise in sadness today and also in hope, as we commemorate the Armenian genocide that happened in the second decade of the twentieth century.

There is nothing easier than to forget the victims of history, and nothing more tragic, and for those very reasons, there is nothing more important than to remember them. And that is what we are here for.

The genocide of the Armenian people is a fact of history. It is a sad fact of history.

But the very fact that we are here, together in the U.S. House of Representatives addressing the issue is reason for hope. Armenians' determination to carry on, and in the United States' historic support for them, and in our joined determination to make sure that we recognize the facts of history—there is great humanity and hope.

I remain committed to the public recognition of the fact of the Armenian genocide. It is the only way to make sure we are forever vigilant to prevent genocide in the future.

I have hope, that we can all move forward, not in an exercise in collective guilt, but in the simple recognition of what happened, that a genocide was perpetrated upon the Armenian people, and that such a thing, quite simply, never should have happened and must never happen again.